

What is claimed is:

Sub a1
1. A method of treating the skin of a subject, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) accessing a sample of interstitial fluid from the skin of said subject;

(b) measuring the amount of a skin analyte in said sample; and

(c) applying a skin care product to said subject to alter the amount of said skin analyte in the skin of said subject.

2. A method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises creating a opening in the stratum corneum of the skin of said patient and accessing said sample through said opening.

3. A method of claim 2, wherein said opening is created with a needle, a blade, a laser, or an electric arc.

4. A method of claim 3, wherein said opening is created with a laser.

5. A method of claim 2; wherein said sample is extracted through said opening under negative pressure.

6. A method of claim 3, wherein said sample is extracted through said opening under negative pressure.

2/ 7. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin analyte is a vitamin, an immunoglobulin, an insulin-like growth factor, an interleukin, an interleukin receptor antagonist, or a metalloproteinase.

5 8/ 8. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin analyte is vitamin C.

9 9/ 9. A method of claim 8, wherein said skin analyte is a vitamin, an immunoglobulin, an insulin-like growth factor, an interleukin, an interleukin receptor antagonist, or a metalloproteinase.

10 10. A method of claim 8, wherein said skin analyte is vitamin C.

11 11. A method of claim 1, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

12 12. A method of claim 2, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

13 13. A method of claim 4, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

14 14. A method of claim 8, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

sub a2
cont

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15. A method of claim 10, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

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16. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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17. A method of claim 2, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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18. A method of claim 4, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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19. A method of claim 8, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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20. A method of claim 10, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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21. A method of claim 11, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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22. A method of claim 12, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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23. A method of claim 13, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

